

# BULLETIN

of the  
**MAHONING COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

*Volume XLVII*

APRIL, 1977

*Number 4*



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## MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS — 1977

Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Jan. 18	Mar. 15	May 24	Sept. 20	Nov. 15	Dec. 20

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## *From the Desk of the President*

### **LOWER COSTS — AT ANY COST!**

The big thing today is the scramble to decrease the cost of Medical care in this Country. We are now blowing over 10% of our gross national product on the unproductive task of caring for the sick. If this trend continues, medical costs might even begin to approach the cost of protecting ourselves from the Russians, or the cost of entertainment. Wow! This is an absolutely horrible situation and everybody is trying to find the answers and become public hero number one.

Labor, Industry, Blue Cross, Government, health planners — the rhetoric is flowing thick and fast. Regulate this; regulate that; H.S.A.s; PSROs; generic drugs; burn the Cat Scanners; ambulatory surgery; have your baby at home; make the doctors compete. On and on, and who gets the blame for the whole thing? Why, good old doc, of course. He or she's the one who admits people to the expensive hospitals and orders all those studies. I'm surprised someone hasn't thought of closing all the Medical Schools. That would really straighten things out. Don't you begin to feel guilty if your patient isn't ready to go home the day after he is admitted? Even the patients are feeling guilty that they are sick.

Seriously, the point is that everybody is so busy trying to lower costs that nobody is bothering to consider what all this is doing to the practice of medicine. No one seems to care that PSROs will interfere with the ability of the physician to make good judgments, or that the generic drugs that cost less may not work as well, or that pharmaceutical companies will no longer be able to engage in expensive research. So what if some poor guy who just had his hernia repaired has to hobble home on the first post-op day. It costs less that way. Who cares why the costs are going up, just get 'em down!

Wouldn't it make more sense to look at the many reasons that medical expenses have increased, and try to pinpoint areas where changes can be made without affecting the quality of our medical care?

There is a basic change taking place in the way in which medical care is financed. The person receiving the care is no longer paying for it directly — the third parties are. As a result there is no incentive for the patient *or the doctor* to keep costs down. This fact, I believe, is a major cause of our problems. No one denies that we must have health care insurance, but must we have the "first dollar" type that is increasingly available now? The auto insurance people learned long ago that one hundred dollar deductible was the way to go, otherwise each scratch resulted in a new fender. If the patient had to pay ten dollars a day of his hospital bill we would do away with the utilization committee (and the cost of it).

I believe Medicine should make an organized effort to convince labor, management, the insurance industry and government to embrace this concept and write policies and contracts that use insurance for its proper purpose — that is to help pay large expenses that are impossible to pay from one's own pocket. If we could accomplish this, we could go a long way toward solving our present dilemma.

—J. James Anderson, M.D.  
President



# BULLETIN

## of the Mahoning County Medical Society

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Volume XLVII

APRIL, 1977



Number 4

The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

### EDITOR

A. Reed Hoffmaster, M.D.

### EDITOR EMERITUS

James L. Fisher, M.D.

### EDITORIAL STAFF

C. A. Gustafson, M.D.  
John C. Melnick, M.D.  
James A. Lambert, M.D.  
Jack Schreiber, M.D.

## Editorial

After several persons had called my attention to it, I read with interest an article in Parade Magazine dated March 6, 1977, entitled "Surgeon of the Impossible." This particular article dealt, in its entirety, with a famous cardiovascular surgeon in New York City. The exploits of this extraordinarily talented man were enumerated as were his accomplishments in the field of surgical research and education. His technical feats associated with his rapid bloodless surgery were elaborated upon in such a fashion as to favorably impress even those of us with a medical background.

As I continued to read this article, my enthusiasm, however, waned rapidly for in the last paragraph the author began a rather unnecessary yet detailed description of the surgeon's twenty six room home in the center of New York City embellished by an indoor swimming pool and ornate gardens. His material possessions were further emphasized by three photographs accompanying the article.

I strongly suspected that the average reader undoubtedly would make a direct association between such material possessions and the average physician in this country. This, in my opinion, is unfortunate, and extremely misleading. In our own community, I would dare say that many physicians work as diligently and effectively as does this famous individual depicted in Parade Magazine. Yet there are very few who live with such lavish and elegant style, and quite frankly, I have yet to meet a fellow physician who lives in a twenty six room mansion.

From the standpoint of public relations, medicine neither needs or deserves articles which depict the spectacular, for such examples are few and far between and are certainly not found in the medical community of Youngstown.

—A. Reed Hoffmaster, M.D.  
Editor

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## DR. WEGNER HONORED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



Dr. Anderson presents resolution and plaque to Dr. Wegner. (right) Marjot and Kurt Wegner.

Dr. Kurt Wegner, chairman of four mass immunization programs for Youngstown and Mahoning County, received a standing ovation at the March 15th meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society where he was presented with a resolution and plaque.

The resolution, read by Dr. Anderson, stated: "Resolved, that the Mahoning County Medical Society extend thanks and grateful recognition to Dr. Wegner for his dedicated work in the difficult task of organizing and carrying out the work of four large-scale immunization programs for Mahoning County."

The plaque was engraved "In grateful appreciation to Kurt Wegner, M.D. for his outstanding service to the people of Mahoning County as chairman of the following mass immunization programs: polio oral vaccine program, 1961; measles immunization program, 1967; rubella immunization program, 1970; influenza immunization program, 1976. Presented by the Mahoning County Medical Society, March 15, 1977."

In making the presentation, Dr. Anderson noted that a space had been left on the plaque for the inclusion of several more immunization programs in the future should the occasion arise.

### CME REMINDER

The need for 150 hours of continuing medical education is now in effect, and all physicians must complete their 150 hours between now and Dec. 31, 1979 in order to reregister their medical license in 1980. This is a legal requirement.

Extensive information has been published in *The Ohio State Medical Journal*. Possibly the best article to save is the one containing the "Log of Continuing Medical Education Activity," which appeared in the December, 1976 issue beginning on page 724.

In addition, every issue of the *Ohio State Medical Journal* carries a page listing current programs and courses along with the category and the credit hours and other pertinent data.

## RESOLUTION TO OSMA

The Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society has submitted one resolution for consideration by the House of Delegates at the OSMA annual meeting in May. It reads as follows:

### RESOLUTION

#### Title 19 (Medicaid)

- WHEREAS: The original intent of Title 19 (Medicaid) of the Medicare Act of 1965 was to assist the poor and medically indigent patients of the United States to obtain quality medical care, and
- WHEREAS: The State of Ohio is currently failing to carry out the original intent of Title 19 by refusing adequate financial assistance to Medicaid recipients, and
- WHEREAS: The arbitrary fee schedule of the Department of Welfare pays, in many instances, only a small fraction of the physician's usual, customary and reasonable fee, and
- WHEREAS: With increasing malpractice premiums and other overhead expenses, this unreasonable and totally inadequate program has forced many patients into the demeaning position of seeking their care on a charity basis, thus defeating the original intent of Title 19, therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Ohio State Medical Association urge its members to continue to bill all patients directly, including those patients who are recipients of government subsidies, and to continue to provide high quality medical care to all patients, regardless of the patient's source of income.

## DAN BECKER WAS MARCH SPEAKER

Dan Becker, president of Gold Cross Ambulance Co., addressed the March 15th meeting of the Medical Society. His slide presentation showing the equipment carried in today's ambulances was particularly effective and came as a revelation to many in attendance. He also commented on the new ambulance laws requiring increased education for ambulance personnel.

## PHARMACY REQUESTS HELP

The Hitchcock Center Pharmacy is receiving many "wrong-number" calls from patients trying to reach the X-ray office in the Hitchcock medical complex. The pharmacist asks physician cooperation by giving patients the correct phone number and name and not calling it the Hitchcock Center X-ray.

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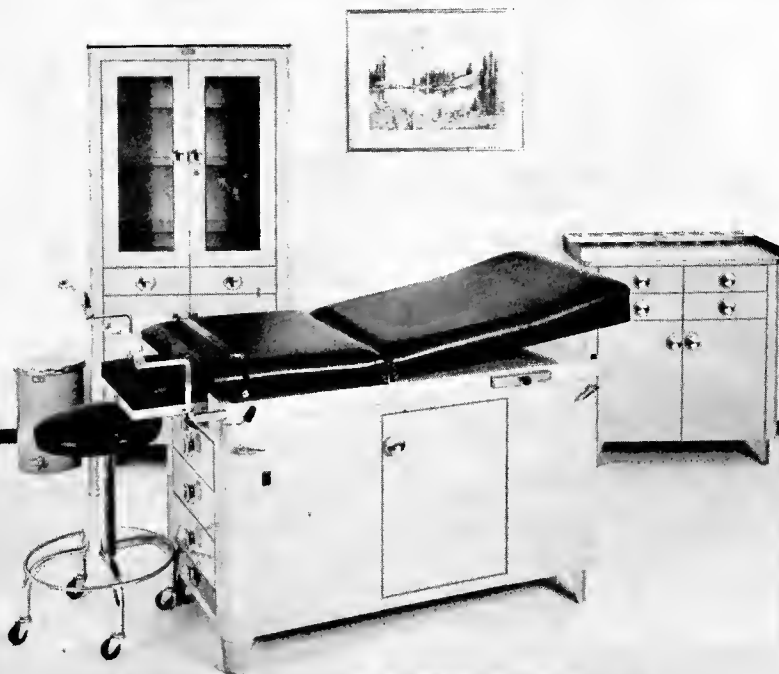
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- Michael Samonas

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- Gary John Kominak

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- Mark Swansiger

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- Richard Iarussi

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- \*William Price
- \*Roger Patrick

## VILLA MARIA

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- Mary T. Kerrigan

## WEST BRANCH

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- Vincent Mauro

## WESTERN RESERVE

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- John David Fowler

## WOODROW WILSON

- \*Jean Jerek
- \*Leanne Vaughn
- \*John Hallas
- \*Robert Bachani

\* denotes a tie for scholarship honors.

## SCHOLARSHIP DINNER HONORS 61

For the eleventh year the Mahoning County Medical Society will honor the area's top scholars at a dinner, to be held Thursday, April 12, at Ramada Inn.

Speakers will be Mrs. Mary B. Smith, director, and R. Jerry Hanisko, assistant director, Career Planning and Placement, Youngstown State University.

Attending will be the top girl and top boy scholar from 25 area high schools. In the case of Villa Maria, an all-girl school, the valedictorian and salutatorian will attend. Honorees are listed on the opposite page.

Selection of students is made by the principals of the individual high schools. Some additional students are listed because of absolute ties brought about by straight 4.0 grade averages.

Following the formal address, each student is presented a specially designed pin and a certificate enrolling him or her in the Mahoning County Medical Society Roster of Scholars.

A physician and his wife will be seated at each table of eight to act as hosts to the young people. Arrangements for this year's award dinner were made by the public relations director, Dr. Gene Butcher.

## RETURN OSMA QUESTIONNAIRE BY 15th

Did you fill-out the questionnaire that was printed on the first page of the March issue of the OSMA Journal? It is a very important request for information, and the answers will govern the Council of the Ohio State Medical Association and PICO in determining whether there is any demand for expanded insurance coverage. The questionnaire also appeared in the OSMAgram. All members are requested to respond by April 15th.

## ANNUAL DINNER DANCE



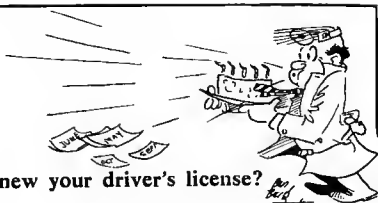
(left) Dr. Anderson, MCMS president, with wife, Mary Ann, and Frances Barton, Auxiliary president, with husband, Dr. Robert Barton. (right) Co-chairmen Mary Chiasson and Anne Buckley, with husbands, Dr. S. W. Chiasson and Dr. John J. Buckley.

The annual dinner-dance, held this year at the Youngstown Country Club, followed the successful tradition of a long line of beautiful social functions of the past. In recent years the planning has been done entirely by the Woman's Auxiliary to the Mahoning County Medical Society.

Mrs. Barton, president, welcomed guests, and Dr. Anderson, president, spoke for the Medical Society. Mrs. Robert Buckley and Mrs. S. W. Chiasson were co-chairmen. Their committee included Mrs. James Dallis, Mrs. Nicholas J. Garritano, Mrs. C. Conner White and Mrs. Barton.

Following dinner, the guests enjoyed an evening of dancing to the music of the Joe Ranalli orchestra.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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## April 16

F. W. Dunlea  
P. B. Giber

## April 17

P. C. Chan

## April 18

V. L. Goodwin

## April 19

C. C. Wales  
K. F. Wieneke

## April 21

M. E. Conti

## April 22

B. M. Brandmiller  
W. D. McElroy  
J. A. Rogers

## April 23

A. A. Detesco  
A. Randall  
S. Zlotnick  
F. E. Shaw  
Y. Jung

## April 24

B. P. Brucoli

## April 25

M. J. Vuksta

## April 26

A. T. Laird  
H. B. Lee

## April 28

S. G. Patton, Jr.

## May 3

C. Waltner

## May 4

M. Karmindro

## May 6

J. A. Hyland

## May 7

M. M. Masry

## May 8

G. T. Szaboky

## May 9

G. E. DeCicco

## May 11

G. W. Cook  
B. Mirvis

## May 12

H. S. Banninga  
W. J. Tims

## May 13

E. R. McNeal  
B. A. Bacani

## May 14

W. E. Sovik  
C. M. Kohli

## May 17

C. C. White

## May 18

S. F. Gaylord  
L. M. Deppisch

## May 20

T. F. Barrett

## May 21

M. A. Soares

## May 23

M. W. Neidus  
J. W. Tandatnick  
W. J. Cleary

## May 24

A. Calder  
J. J. Wasilko

## May 25

B. B. Burrowes  
M. I. Jacobson

## May 26

J. M. Benko

## May 27

G. B. Pugh

## May 28

C. H. McGowen

## May 30

H. L. Allen  
C. A. Gustafson

## June 3

B. C. Berg

## June 4

H. B. Hutt  
H. H. Ipp  
R. D. Arnott  
J. Schreiber  
R. A. Wiltsie

## June 5

A. M. Rosenblum  
G. L. River  
N. S. Natividad

## June 6

E. R. Brody  
E. Shapira Bloomberg  
R. Cossette

## June 8

A. DiDomenico  
G. G. Nelson  
E. R. Ebie

## June 9

K. C. Kunin  
J. Noll  
M. F. Sheridan

## June 10

R. W. Parry  
J. P. Shah

## June 12

J. H. O. Bleacher

## June 13

J. G. Guju  
R. L. Jenkins, Jr.  
F. A. Resch  
J. P. Cleary

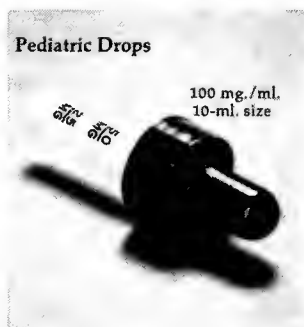
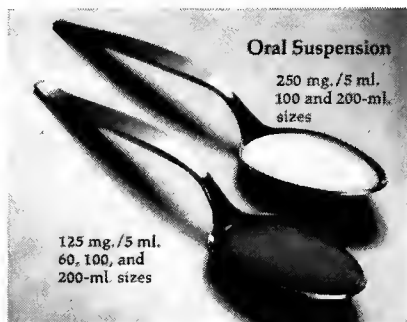
## June 14

R. R. Fisher

## June 15

U. H. Boening  
A. R. Cukerbaum  
P. D. Bunn

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Y.H.A.  
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Youngstown, O. 44502

## CORRECTIONS

The "Meet the New Doctors" page in the March issue contained three errors. The *Bulletin* offers, with apologies, the following corrections: Two names were misspelled. They are Robert P. Cuttica, M.D. and Steven M. Kalavsky, M.D. The correct hospital affiliation of Joseph P. Cleary, M.D. is St. Elizabeth Hospital.



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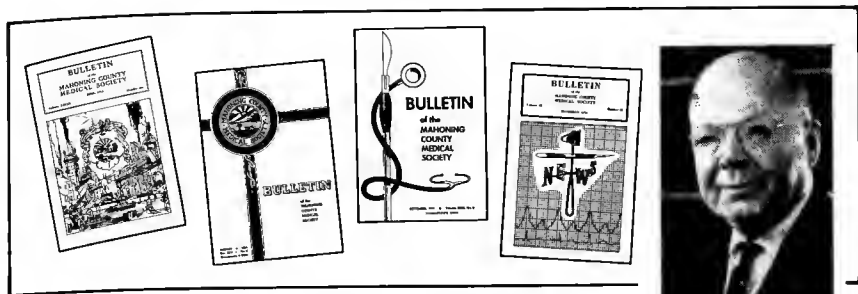
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## From the Bulletin

### FORTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1937

For Post-Graduate Day we had a group from the University of Michigan consisting of A. C. Furstenberg, Frank N. Wilson, Frederick Callers, Cameron Haight and John M. Sheldon. The attendance was not as good as usual due to a big meeting in Pittsburgh the same day, but Secretary Polling said about 400 attended.

Members were invited to the Mahoning County Bar Association's grid-iron show entitled "Frolics and Colics of 1937" at the Ohio Hotel. It was a musical show with the Medical-Dental Orchestra in the pit. It was a hilarious comedy written by Verne Cailor and the high spot was a song and dance number put on by Oscar Kaufman.

Peter Boyle was abroad studying obstetrics and gynecology at the Rotunda in Dublin. E. C. Baker addressed the Cleveland Radiological Society. W. H. Bunn and John McCann appeared on the program of the OSMA meeting at Dayton. Dr. Richard V. Clifford became a member of the Society.

### THIRTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1947

The group scheduled from Temple University for Post-Graduate Day that year was composed of W. Emery Burnett, O. Spurgeon English, John Lansbury, J. Robert Wilson and C. D. Jackson. Dr. Wilson was late getting here because of plane trouble and Dr. Eleanor Steel came instead of English, but everyone was happy and the day was the usual big success. Most of the lectures were abstracted in the May *Bulletin* which was a very acceptable innovation. Gabe DeCicco worked his head off as usual.

Dr. Ray Hall's article on "Tonsillectomy and Poliomyelitis" said that there was no statistical nor experimental proof so far of any true relationship between poliomyelitis and tonsillectomy.

Morris Rosenblum was studying internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic. Milton Yarmy was at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School.

J. K. Herald was studying Proctology at the New York Polyclinic. C. W. Sterzbach arrived in town to be associated with E. J. Wenaas. Dr. Louis Bloomberg opened his office for the practice of ophthalmology. J. L. Scarnecchia completed a residency at Lakeside Hospital and resumed his practice of obstetrics and gynecology.

### TWENTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1957

President Ondash was promoting a committee under the auspices of the Americal College of Surgeons for the better care of the injured.

The North-East Ohio Society of Internal Medicine was formed with the headquarters in Youngstown. Arnoldus Goudsmit was President; John Noll, Vice-President and Hugh Bennett, Secretary-Treasurer.

New members were George B. Pugh, G. H. Davies, W. D. MacLean and H. C. Gonzalez.

### TEN YEARS AGO — APRIL 1967

Medical meetings were held in the Mural Room. I wonder how many remember it? The Mural Room was on Boardman St. across from the Elks

Club. Parking was plentiful, the ball room was adequate, the acoustics were good and the food was fair. I cannot understand why they tore down the place. The same with the beautiful Palace Theater. Nothing equal has replaced it.

President Reese inveighed against the new registration fee for doctors which would provide the State of Ohio with \$110,000.00 with absolutely no benefit for the doctors. The fee was \$10.00.

Joseph Colla died. He was a fine gentleman full of vigor and humor and everyone loved him.

Bill Allsop died after an outstanding career in surgery. He was Past President of the Society.

New members were: Domenic Malter, Juan A. Ruiz, Michael Galose, M. L. McKenzie and C. A. Sarantopoulos.

—J. L. F.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

March 8, 1977

The regular meeting of Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, March 8, 1977, at the Youngstown Club.

The motion was made by Dr. Abdu, and properly seconded, that Council ask the delegation to OSMA to draft a resolution to OSMA concerning Medicare-Medicaid level of payments. Motion was passed.

Dr. Anderson read a letter from Bob Holcomb calling attention to an insurance questionnaire in the March issue of the Ohio State Medical Journal and the OSMAgram. OSMA would like a response from all members.

Dr. Anderson informed Council that there are two bills in the Ohio State Legislature asking for repeal of the anti-substitution-drug law. He proposed that we send a questionnaire to our members to get their opinions on this subject with the end results to be sent to our local legislators for information and guidance.

Dr. Sovik reported for the OSMA Health Manpower Committee, of which he is chairman. Several ancillary professions are requesting separate licensing boards. Dr. Sovik stated that the Ohio State Medical Board needs more money and personnel and must not be controlled by politicians.

Dr. Wiltsie reported for the Blood Bank Committee. He stated that apparently an agreement has been reached with the Red Cross under which the Red Cross will do the recruiting and the blood will be processed locally instead of being sent to Cleveland.

A motion was made by Dr. Hoffmaster, and properly seconded, that the Mahoning County Medical Society continue the policy of refusing to accept any collection agency advertising in the *Bulletin* except that of the Medical Dental Bureau. Motion was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Butcher, and properly seconded, that the Scholarship Dinner continue to honor only the top high school scholars as in the past. Motion was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Wiltsie, and properly seconded, that the Mahoning County Medical Society send to all members suggested guidelines for management of patients exposed to head and neck radiation for benign conditions.

A motion was made by Dr. Gregori, and properly seconded, that the above motion be referred to the Cancer Committee. Motion was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Pichette, and properly seconded, that the recommendations of the Cancer Committee be accepted and implemented without coming back to Council. Motion was passed.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Howard Rempes  
Executive Secretary

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